

By Sidney Smith

# TARZAN THE TERRIBLE

By EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS

Author of the "Tarzan" Stories and the "Martian" Stories

## THIS BEGINS THE STORY

Tarzan, the ape-man, known in civilized life as Lord Greystoke, learns that his wife is captive in an African jungle and searches for her. His search leads him to A-lur, a city in a forgotten land, where, by his boldness and skill in pitting one of his warriors against another, he escapes with his life. Lady Greystoke had been carried off by Lieutenant Oberatz, a German officer, at the instance of the high command because of the havoc Tarzan had played in the city. She was captured by a hostile band of savages, but at last escapes and again meets Oberatz, who tells of his experience in being taken over by a strange people who later discover that he is nothing of the kind. The warning of a curious woman enables him to escape them. He tells her of his return to A-lur, and at once, all this he informs Lady Greystoke in the course of a graphic narration.

## AND HERE IT CONTINUES

She wanted to hang around and see me go, but I told her that her only way out was to get away as soon as she could and not return to the spot for at least an hour.

"It also occurred to me the fact that you should any other approach this part of the village within that time not only they, but she as well, would burst into flames and all the village would know that I was no less than a man. I thought myself, and so they must think me, for I can assure you that I was gone in much less than an hour, nor have I ventured close to the neighborhood of the city of Bu-lur, and he fell to laughing in harsh, cackling notes that sent a shiver through the woman's frame.

As Oberatz had recovered her spirit from the excess of the episode and commenced busying herself with the removal of the hide. The man made no attempt to assist her, but stood by talking and watching her, while he continually ran his filthy fingers through his matted hair and beard. His face and body were caked with dirt and he was naked except for a pair of greasy leathern loincloths. His weapon consisted of a club and knife of Waz-don pattern, but he had stolen from the city of Bu-lur; but what more greatly concerned the woman than his fish or his ornament were his cackling laughter and the strange expression in his eyes.

"She went on with her work, however, removing these parts of the back as she might consume before it spoiled, as she was not sufficiently a true jungle creature to relish it beyond that stage, and then she straightened up and faced the man.

"Lieutenant Oberatz," she said, "by a chance of accident we have met again. Certainly you would not have sought the meeting any more than I. We have nothing in common other than those sentiments which may have been engendered by my natural dislike and suspicion of you, one of the authors of all the misery and sorrow that I have endured for endless months. This little corner of the world is mine by right of discovery and occupation. Go away and leave me to enjoy the peace I may. It is the least that you can do to amend the wrong that you have done me and mine."

The man stared at her through his fishy eyes for a moment in silence, then there broke from his lips a peal of mirthless, unmeaning laughter.

"Go away!" he said.

"I have found you. We are going to be good friends. There is no one else in the world but us. No one will ever know what we do or what becomes of us and now you ask me to go away and live alone in this hellish solitude."

Again he laughed, though neither the muscles of his eyes nor his mouth reflected any mirth—it was just a hollow sound that he laughed.

"Remember your promise," she said.

"Promise? Promise? What are promises? They are made to be broken. We might as well talk of the Louvain. No, no; I will not go away. I shall stay and protect you."

"I do not need your protection," she insisted.

"You have already seen that I can use a spear," he said.

"Yes," he said, "but it would not be right to leave you here alone—you are but a woman. No, no; I am an officer of the Kaiser and I cannot abandon you."

Once more he laughed. "We could be very happy here together," he added.

The woman could not repress a shudder, nor, in fact, did she attempt to hide her aversion.

"Ah, well, it is too late," he asked, "you will love me," and again the hideous laughter.

The woman had wrapped the pieces of the hide in the hide and she now raised and threw across her shoulder. In the other hand she held her spear.

"Go," she commanded. "We have wasted enough words. This is my own land and I shall defend it. If I see you about again I shall kill you. Do you understand?"

An expression of rage contorted Oberatz's features. He raised his club and started toward her.

"Stop!" she commanded, throwing her spear hand backward for a cast. "You saw me kill this buck and you have said truthfully that no one will ever know what we do here. Put these two facts together, German, and draw your own conclusions before you take another step in my direction."

The man halted and his club-hand dropped to his side. "Come," he said in a conciliatory tone. "Let us be friendly Greystoke. We can be of great assistance to each other and I promise not to harm you."

"Remember Liege and Louvain," she reminded him with a sneer. "I am going now—be sure that you do not follow me. As far as you can walk in a day from this spot in any direction you may consider the limits of my domain. I shall kill you."

There could be no question that she meant what she said and the man seemed convinced, for he but stood silent while she backed from the spot that crossed the fern in the game trail and disappeared in the forest.

CHAPTER XX  
Silently in the Night

In A-lur the fortunes of the city had been tossed from hand to hand. The Tarzan had led to the rendezvous at the entrance to the secret passage below the palace gates had in it with disaster. Their first rush had been met with soft words from the priests. They had been exhorted to defend the faith of their fathers from blasphemy. Ju-don was ordered to them as a doer of temples, and the wrath of Ju-don-Olo was prophesied for those who entered his name. The priests insisted that his wish was to prevent the seizure of the throne by Ju-don until a new king could be chosen according to the laws of the Ho-don.

The result was that many of the pal-

ace warriors joined their fellows of the city, and when the priests saw that those whom they could influence outnumbered those who remained loyal to the palace, they quickly barred. The priests led their own forces through the secret passage into the temple, while some of the loyal ones sought out Ju-don and told him all that had happened. The night in the banquet hall had passed over a considerable portion of the palace grounds and had at last resulted in the temporary defeat of those who had opposed Ju-don. This force, composed by under priests sent for the purpose by Lu-don, and withdrawn within the temple grounds so that now the issue was plainly marked as between Ju-don on the one side and Lu-don on the other.

The former had been told of all that had occurred in the apartments of O-lo-Olo, and he had not hesitated at the first opportunity, and he had also learned of Tarzan's part in leading his men to the gathering of Lu-don's warriors.

These things had naturally increased the old warrior's former inclinations of friendliness toward the ape-man, and now he regretted that the other had departed from the city.

The testimony of O-lo-a and Pan-atle was such as to strengthen whatever belief in the godliness of the stranger Ja-don and there of the warriors had previously entertained, until presently there appeared a strong tendency upon the part of his palace faction to make O-lo-a and Pan-atle an issue of their original quarrel with Lu-don.

Whether this occurred as the natural sequence to repeated narrations of the ape-man's exploits, which lost nothing by repetition, in conjunction with Ju-don's enmity toward him, or whether it was the shrewd design of some wily old warrior such as Ja-don, who realized the value of adding a vigorous cause to their temporal one, it were difficult to determine; but the fact remained that Ju-don's followers developed bitter hatred for the followers of Lu-don because of the high priest's antagonism to Tarzan.

Unfortunately, however, Tarzan was not there to inspire the followers of Ja-don with the holy zeal that might have quickly settled the dispute in the old chieftain's favor. Instead, he was miles away and because their reported prayers for his presence were unanswered, the weaker spirits among them commenced to suspect that their cause did not have divine favor. There was also another and a potent cause for defection from the ranks of Ja-don. It emanated from the city where the friends and relatives of the palace warriors, who were largely also the friends and relatives of Lu-don's forces, found the means, urged on by the priesthood, to circulate throughout the palace the pernicious propaganda aimed at Ja-don's cause.

The result was that Lu-don's power increased while that of Ja-don waned. Then followed a sortie from the temple which resulted in the defeat of the palace forces, and though they were able to withdraw in decent order without being looted, leaving the palace to Lu-don, who was now virtually ruler of Pal-ul-don.

Ja-don, taking with him the princess, her women, and their slaves, including Pan-lur, he employed to trap Tarzan in the lion pit at Tu-lur while messengers passed back and forth between Mo-sar and Lu-don as the two dickered for the hire of Pal-ul-don. Mo-sar was cunning enough to guess that should an open breach occur between himself and the high priest, he might use his prisoner to his own advantage, for he and Ju-don were both of the same opinion and Ju-don had his own people that suggested that there were those who were more than a trifle inclined to believe in the divinity of the stranger and that he might, indeed, be the Ho-u-quo. Lu-don wanted Tarzan himself. He wanted to sacrifice him upon the eastern altar with his own hands before a multitude of people, since he was not without evidence that his own standing and authority had been lessened by the claims of the bold and heroic figure of the stranger.

The method that the high priest of Tu-lur had employed to trap Tarzan had left the ape-man in possession of his weapons, though there seemed little likelihood of their being of any service to him. He had his pouch in which were the various odds and ends which are the natural accumulation of all receptacles from a gold meshbag to an arrow. There were bits of obsidian and choice feathers for arrows, some pieces of flint and a couple of steel, an old knife, a heavy bone needle, and strips of dried gut. Nothing very useful to you or me, perhaps, but nothing useless to the savage life of the ape-man.

When Tarzan realized the trick that had been so ingeniously played upon him he had awaited expectantly the coming of the lion, for, though the scent of ja was old he was sure that sooner or later they would let one of the beasts in upon him. His first consideration was a thorough exploration of his prison. He had noticed the hide-covered windows and these he immediately uncovered, letting in the light, and revealing the fact that, though the chamber was far below the level of the temple courts, it was yet many feet above the base of the hill on which the temple was built. The windows were so closely barred that he could not see over the edge of the thick wall in which they were cut to determine what lay close below him. At a little distance were the blue waters of Ju-don-lu and beyond, the verdure-clad farther shore, and beyond that the mountains. It was a beautiful picture upon which he looked—a picture of peace and harmony and quiet. Nor anywhere a slightest suggestion of the savage men and beasts that claimed this lovely landscape as their own. What a paradise! And some day civilized man would come and—apoll! It! Ruthless axes would raise that age-old wood, black, sticky smoke would rise from ugly chimneys against that azure sky; grimy little boats with wheels behind or upon either side would churn the mud from the bottom of Ju-don-lu, turning the blue waters to a dirty brown; hideous piers would project into the lake from squalid buildings of corrugated iron, doubtless, for of such are the pioneer cities of the world.

But would civilized man come? Tarzan hoped not. For countless generations civilization had ramped about the globe; it had dispatched its emissaries to the North Pole and the South; it had circled Pal-ul-don, once, perhaps many times, but it had never touched the spot that he now gazed upon. Perhaps He was saying this little spot to be always just as He had made it, for the scratching of the Ho-don and the Waz-don upon His rocks had not altered the fair face of Nature.

## SOMEbody'S STENOG—Questions and Answers

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HELLO DEARIE! DID YOU HAVE A GOOD TIME ON YOUR VACATION?

YES—I WAS ON A HIKE—THE FIRST WEEK—UP IN A LITTLE CABIN IN THE SECOND WEEK AND SPENT THE THIRD WEEK AT A SWELL HOTEL AND—(ETC.)

HELLO CAM! DID YOU HAVE A GOOD TIME ON YOUR VACATION?

YES—I WAS ON A HIKE—AT A CABIN AID AT A HOTEL.

GENTLEMAN ON IMPORTANT BUSINESS WITH THE BOSS

ER—GOOD MORNING—EH—

YES—I DID!

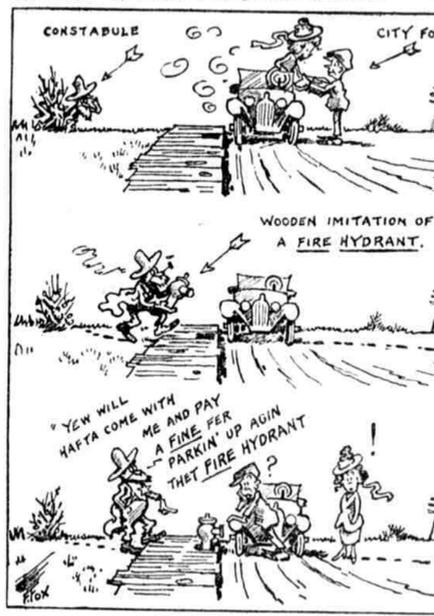
QUESTION NO. 502

## The Young Lady Across the Way



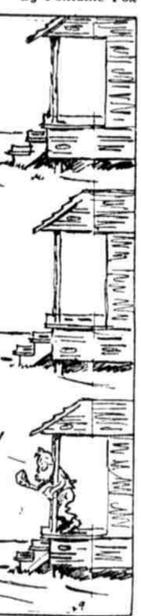
The young lady across the way says what she can't understand is how a baseball player can have a batting average of .500 in one game, as she shouldn't think there'd be time to pile up such a big one.

## The Hickville Constable Is Doing Well This Summer



Ja-don, taking with him the princess, her women, and their slaves, including Pan-lur, he employed to trap Tarzan in the lion pit at Tu-lur while messengers passed back and forth between Mo-sar and Lu-don as the two dickered for the hire of Pal-ul-don. Mo-sar was cunning enough to guess that should an open breach occur between himself and the high priest, he might use his prisoner to his own advantage, for he and Ju-don were both of the same opinion and Ju-don had his own people that suggested that there were those who were more than a trifle inclined to believe in the divinity of the stranger and that he might, indeed, be the Ho-u-quo. Lu-don wanted Tarzan himself. He wanted to sacrifice him upon the eastern altar with his own hands before a multitude of people, since he was not without evidence that his own standing and authority had been lessened by the claims of the bold and heroic figure of the stranger.

## SCHOOL DAYS



GOSH, I DON'T THINK IT DOES ANY GOOD TO SPIT ON YOUR BAIT—TED WEBSTER SAID IT DID BUT I AMT CAUGHT HERE I SPIT ON BAIT WORM.

FOOLSPIT AINT NO GOOD. YOU'D QWENTA HIRE AN ASSISTANT.

MAN IN THE MAKING

## PETEY—Babes in the Wood



— WHERE DID IT GO, MISTER? DID YOU SEE IT?

— GREAT HEAVENS! WHAT A STUPID CADDY— THAT'S THE THIRD BALL HE'S LOST FOR ME!

— WHY DON'T YOU KEEP 'EM OUT WHERE IT'S SMOOTH SO'S IT WON'T BE SO HARD TO FIND

— I'LL KILL THAT BIRD YET!

— THIS IS AN AWFUL PLACE MISTER— I CAN'T FIND IT

— SAY! IS THIS THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE EVER CADDIED?

— YEAH— HOW DID YOU EVER GUESS IT— THIS IS THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE PLAYED AUNT IT!

## THE CLANCY KIDS—Timmie Puts It All Over the Old Crank



TIMMIE'S SOAPWITH PLANE

THE CRANK HAD BEEN DESTROYING EVERY BASEBALL THAT WENT OVER THE FENCE, SO TIMMIE ORGANIZED A REPRISAL SQUADRON WHICH RETALIATED BY DROPPING BAGS OF WATER WITH TELLING EFFECT.

By Percy L. Crosby

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## CONTINUED TOMORROW